

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION

The twelfth meeting of the Interpreter Licensure Board was held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission Office, 1630 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois.

I. Call to Order

Dana Craig, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. on November 3, 2009.

Members Present:

Dana Craig	Teri Hedding	Janet Lambert
Somone Bowman	Karen Janssen	
Becki Combs	Paul Menkis	

Members Absent:

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel

Interpreters:

Sheila Chapman, CSC	Marilyn Corlett, CSC
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Public:

None

IDHHC Staff Present:

None

II. Approval of Minutes

Becki Combs moved to approve the minutes as presented. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

III. Interpreter Coordinator Report

Janet Lambert reported the following:

- Total YTD licensed interpreters 640; since 9/1/09, 45 newly licensed and 7 upgrades to proficiency levels.
- Two (2) Licensure Board terms expire at the end of the year. Board members seeking reappointment must follow the application procedures.
- Information on Licensure Fund (0449) can be found at the Illinois Comptroller website at www.ioc.state.il.us
- The Interpreter Coordinator position remains on hold. Janet Lambert and Tonia Bogener continue to assume the Interpreter Coordinator duties in the interim.

IV. Conference Committee Report

The IDHHC Interpreter Conference will be May 21 and 22, 2010, in Springfield, IL with a total of 10 presenters. The Conference will be advertised through IDHHC email alerts, its website and information sent to IRID. Suggestions made to contact the CATIE center at St. Catherine University which receives a federal grant to provide interpreting education in the Midwest, to explore additional resources and exposure for the IDHHC conference. A call for proposals and a call for interpreters will be sent out. The Conference Committee meets again on 12/18/09 at IDHHC.

V. Unfinished Business

a. IDHHC Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test

Somone Bowman moved that the Board accept the DI Knowledge Based test as modified. Becki Combs seconded. All in favor: Teri Hedding, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Becki Combs moved that the Commission staff move forward with the preliminary test group and report the results at our next meeting. Somone Bowman seconded. All in favor: Teri Hedding, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Karen Janssen moved that the Licensure Board identify the DI Knowledge Based Test group be the Deaf/Hard of Hearing participants who attended the 16 hour Deaf Interpreter training covering Roles and Responsibilities and Ethics of CDI's (Certified Deaf Interpreters) either in Chicago, March 2009 or the IDHHC Interpreter Conference in Springfield, May 2009. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Becki moved that the KBT be provided with the following parameters:

- Test given in written English format only.
- The test will be provided one time only at no cost to the test group.
- The test group is responsible for their own travel expenses to and from the testing location in Springfield, IL.
- Any candidate who fails the KBT may not retest for a minimum of 6 months and must pay test fees in future.
- Any candidate passing the test is required to apply and pay for their state interpreter licensure fees.
- Candidates will accept their test results without prejudice.
- Candidates will be required to sign a disclaimer form before taking the test.

Somone Bowman seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Becki Combs moved that IDHHC staff will send letters to the test candidates by November 17, 2009 indicating the test will be offered to the test group during the following times and dates : Friday, March 12, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 13, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Candidates must register for a test slot no later than February 1, 2010. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed how to administer the test – one on one or in a group. It was determined that it will be administered to 2 groups with 7 in each group on March 12 and 13, 2010 at IDHHC. The deadline for candidates to respond will be 2/1/10.

The Board recessed at 10:53 a.m. and reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

b. State Interpreter Performance Test

Janet Lambert informed the Board that Michigan is going forward with using the BEI and Missouri is considering using the BEI. Missouri asked IDHHC Staff to collaborate with them with the BEI. A joint visit to Texas to further discuss the BEI is a possibility. Kansas is willing to provide/lease/sell their new QA to Illinois. Texas indicated a willingness to waive contract requirements that conflict with Illinois law. However, if interpreters move to Texas, they would have to meet TX full requirements. If Illinois decides to proceed with BEI, Ms. Bogener will review the final contract. The cost to lease the Texas BEI is \$14,000. The Board discussed if that would be a reasonable cost. They further discussed the potential number of test takers by category in Illinois.

The Board recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

The Board continued its discussion of various state tests. Missouri administers about 250-300 tests per year. Missouri currently has 670 licensed interpreters which includes educational and free lance interpreters. The Board discussed what could be reasonably charged to applicants in order to recover the cost of the BEI.

Ms. Lambert shared what is being charged to candidates currently for certain tests:

ISAS	\$275.00	MO	170.00
BEI/Texas	225.00	KS	490.00
RID	565.00		

Other issues the Board discussed were testing methods, testing process, how levels of one test fit into the levels of another test and who decides how the ISAS levels fit into the Texas system.

Karen Janssen moved that IDHHC send a team comprised of IDHHC Staff and one Interpreter Licensure Board member to Texas to further investigate the BEI interpreter performance based test. Somone Bowman seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Karen Janssen moved that Licensure Board Member, Becki Combs accompany IDHHC Staff to Texas for the purpose of investigating the BEI. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 2:40 p.m. and reconvened at 2:50 p.m.

VI. New Business

a. Disciplinary Report

Complaints	FY 09	FY 10
Filed	9	7
Closed	3	3
Consent Order	1	1

IDHHC entered into 2 Consent orders where interpreters voluntarily agreed to discipline including probation and fines. Interpreters must inform all their customers they are on probation. The website will also reflect the Interpreter is on Probation under the License Status.

b. 2010 License Renewal Process

Renewal notices will be sent out to licensed interpreters. The renewal form will be pre-populated with information in the IDHHC data base. Interpreters need to verify that the information on file is accurate. Information about renewals is also on the IDHHC website front page. Interpreters seeking to upgrade their license must supply proof they have met the criteria for the upgrade with their form. Late fees will be assessed if renewal fees are paid after 1/1/10.

c. 2010 IDHHC Conference

Conference will be held on May 21-22, 2010.

d. Amendments to Licensure Rules

Teri Hedding asked the Board to discuss how Deaf Interpreters can progress through the Illinois license levels based on training and other criteria. Ms. Hedding also asked if Illinois rules need to be amended to reciprocate for out-of-state Deaf Interpreters to work in Illinois. The Board also discussed the use of and need for mentoring of new interpreters including Deaf Interpreters. Mentees might work in settings that require a higher level license while working with a mentor and currently the rules and law are not specific for this condition of mentorship. An option would be to develop a more formal mentorship program and rules to accommodate that. Ms. Hedding suggested that the focus should be on those DI's in the Intermediate license category who want to work towards a higher level license. Training other than the 8 hour, 8 hour DI training should be considered for Deaf Interpreters.

Missouri currently does not regulate Deaf Interpreters. The Board discussed the criteria that must be met by out-of-state interpreters coming into Illinois working less than 14 days/year.

Teri Hedding moved to have alternative language added to 1515.50, section B, # 8 to allow alternate options to show proof of 20 contact hours professional development in interpreting for non-Illinois residents only. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

Teri Hedding asked about the mentor/mentee relationship beyond ITP's. It was reported that there are currently no formal, wide-spread mentorship programs for post-ITP interpreters. The Board agreed there is a need for mentorship. Janet Lambert recommended that Board members do research and bring back ideas pertaining to mentorship for discussion at the next meeting.

The Board briefly reviewed the Board officer election process that will take place at the next meeting in January 2010.

VII. Adjournment

Dana Craig moved to adjourn the meeting. Becki Combs seconded. All in favor: Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Becki Combs, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

(Signature on File)

Chair

Date

(Signature on File)

Karen Janssen, Secretary

Date